

REMARKS

After entry of the Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 filed on January 12, 2005, claims 1-16 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant is amending claims 1, 12, and 16 and adding claims 17-20. No new matter is added.

Regarding Feingold, on which the Examiner comments in the Advisory Action of February 17, 2005, the Examiner now points to the tubing 22j in Fig. 13 of the reference. Such structure cannot reasonably meet the claim language “practically the entire section of an end of the body.” Applicant further notes that even under the Examiner’s broad interpretation, the Examiner has not given patentable weight to the requirement that the fingers are “brought together.”

In this regard, Applicant has prepared perspective schematic views corresponding to the sectional views of Figs. 5 to 16, to more clearly show that the disclosed embodiments are different from what is recited in claim 1.

From the attached schematic views, one clearly understands that only embodiments of Figs. 11 and 16 can be considered as having a plurality of piston elements (fingers). Figure 13, on the other hand, shows a tube, which is integral, and thus does not form a plurality of fingers.

Embodiment of Fig. 11 is also very different from claim 1. As described at column 8, lines 52-54, the slotted tip is to accommodate the trailing haptic of the lens. It is thus impossible that the two “fingers” flex one towards the other such that they come in contact with each other, because this would pinch or trap the trailing haptic, making dispensing of the lens impossible.

The same is true for the paddles of embodiments of Fig. 16 which are not flexing towards one another to form a cylinder that occupies practically the entire section of the body's end. At the opposite, said paddles are forming a scraper capturing the trailing haptic (column 9, lines 25-27).

Nowhere in Feingold is there disclosed a structure similar to that of claim 1. In claim 1, because the fingers flex towards each other and come in contact with each other to occupy practically the entire section of an end of the body, it is clear that no part of the lens can be located between said fingers, otherwise it would be trapped.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Raja Saliba
Registration No. 43,078

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 15, 2005

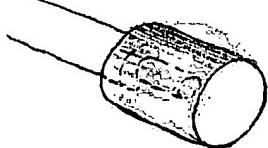


Fig 5

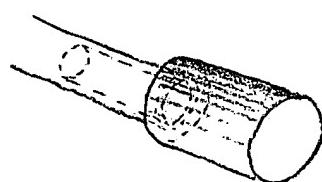


Fig 6

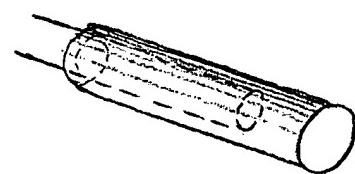


Fig 7

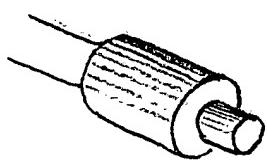


Fig 8

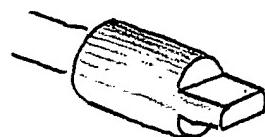


Fig 8 bis

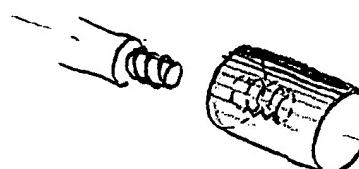


Fig 9

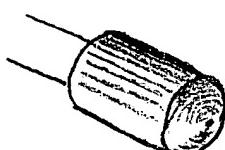


Fig 10

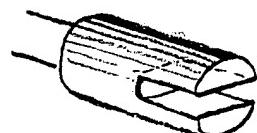


Fig 11



Fig 12

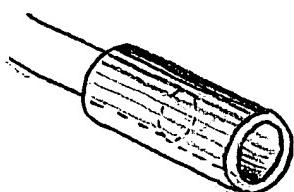


Fig 13

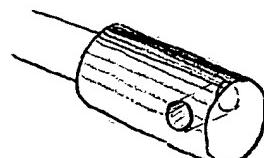


Fig 14

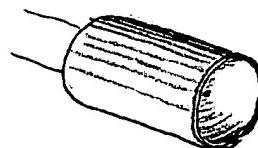


Fig 15

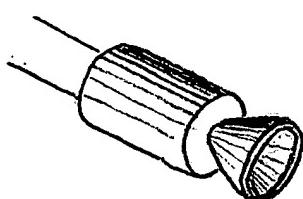


Fig 16

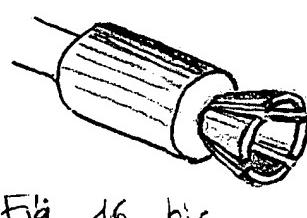


Fig 16 bis